

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 STR-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

SAM-01 /088 W

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R 231400Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 333

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 2375

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, ETRD, EAID, EG, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS: VISIT OF MINISTER OF TRADE

REF: CAIRO 1818

1. GOE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT MINISTER OF TRADE ZAKARIA
TWEFIK ABDEL FATTAH WILL GO TO MOSCOW ON MARCH 20 FOR
PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING AID AND TRADE RELATIONS WITH USSR
RATHER THAN MARCH 9 (REFTEL), IN CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSIONS HELD
LATE LAST YEAR WHICH CULMINATED IN
INITIALING OF PROTOCOL OF AGREEMENT.

2. COMMENT: LAST TIME WE SPOKE WITH HIM ON THIS
ISSUE, ABDEL FATTAH MADE IT PLAIN HE WAS NOT LOOKING FORWARD
TO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF THORNY AND POLITICALLY SENSITIVE
ISSUE, I.E., EGYPT'S DEBTS TO USSR, WHICH IS NOT HIS
RESPONSIBILITY AND IN WHICH HE INSISTS HE HAS NO INTERESTS.
NEVERTHELESS, HE IS AWARE TRADE CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM
AID, AND IS RESIGNED TO NECESSITY OF COVERING BOTH
SUBJECTS IF HE HAS TO.

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